

## Adult Summer Reading Suggestions

1. **Secrets of the Sands: The Revelations of Egypt's Everlasting Oasis** [DB059056](#)
  - Award-winning science writer recounts the discovery yield from archaeologists' thirty-year excavation of Egypt's Dakhleh Oasis. Thurston, who joined the dig in 1987, cites remains from nearly half a million years of habitation including Egyptian and Roman cultures, as well as evidence of human relationships with a changing environment.
2. **Nine Faces of Kenya** [DB038481](#)
  - Anthology explores aspects of Kenya, the African country once ruled by the Portuguese and the British. The nine faces of the title refer to such topics as wildlife, settlers, exploration, travel, environment, hunting, lifestyles, wars, and legend and poetry. Huxley contributes to this portrait, adds stories and poems by native peoples, and includes selections by other writers, such as Richard Leakey and Karen Blixen, known as Isak Dinesen.
3. **The Beautiful Ones Are Not Yet Born** [DB051318](#)
  - A dedicated and honest middle-class civil servant in a newly independent African country is scorned by his wife and fellow citizens for his truthfulness and good intentions. Widespread popular cynicism and disillusionment are being fueled by the corrupt political regime in the nation's capital. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language.
4. **Born a Crime** [DB086608](#)
  - The host of TV's The Daily Show shares his coming-of-age story as the child of a white father and black mother in South Africa. Their very union was considered a crime, and when the author was born during apartheid, his biracial status made him an outcast. Commercial audiobook.
5. **This House Has Fallen: Midnight in Nigeria** [DB053150](#)
  - Explores political, social, and economic conditions in the troubled West African nation of Nigeria. Profiles its enormous potential and prospects, and explains how corruption, fractious ethnic and religious groups, and poverty threaten to divide the tenth most populous and sixth largest oil-producing country in the world.
6. **Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe** [DB067218](#)
  - Discusses the South African country formerly known as Rhodesia. Describes the 1980 overthrow of colonial powers by nationalist Robert Mugabe's use of guerrilla warfare. Details Mugabe's establishment of a dictatorship that led to economic decline and poor health-care and educational systems.
7. **The Sunbird** [DB049899](#)
  - Archaeologist Benjamin Kazin, his assistant Sally Benator, and their financier Louren Sturvesant venture to Botswana to uncover the ancient Carthaginian city of Opet. After becoming infected by a virus at the site, Sturvesant dies and Kazin falls into a coma wherein he relives the final days of the ancient civilization.
8. **The House at Sugar Beach** [DB067610](#)
  - Memoir by New York Times correspondent describes her privileged childhood in Liberia as a descendant of black American founders. Cooper relates her uprooting by a 1980 coup that forced the family to flee to the United States--and her return decades later. Some violence and some strong language.
9. **The Dark Child** [DB031468](#)
  - The noted African novelist wrote this autobiography while in his twenties and studying in France. Born into the ancient Malinke tribe in Kouroussa, in what was then French Guinea (now Guinea), Laye writes of his childhood and boyhood on the banks of the Niger.
10. **The Boy Who Runs** [DB085500](#)
  - Sportswriter chronicles Achon's journey from being a boy soldier in Uganda to his success as an Olympic runner. Abducted at age twelve into the brutal Lord's Resistance Army, Achon escaped, trained as a runner, traveled to America for college, and became an Olympian and a humanitarian.